

enforcement personnel and others who work to bring offenders to justice. As we recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we are reminded of the important service these individuals provide.

Domestic violence has no place in our society, and I am strongly committed to addressing domestic violence and helping those who have been victimized. By working together with the YWCA of Northwest Georgia and its dedicated staff, we can build a Georgia where every home honors the value and dignity of its loved ones.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, today I congratulate Georgian Court University, GCU, on its 100th anniversary. For the past century, GCU has been a leader in higher education, encouraging intellectual inquiry, ethical professionalism, and community involvement. I am proud to have this institution in New Jersey, and it is an honor to pay tribute to its achievements.

Georgian Court University was founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1908 as a women's college, and it remains dedicated to the success of women today. The Women's College at GCU provides an environment conducive to academic achievement and offers a liberal arts education tailored to women's learning styles. In particular, GCU's Women in Leadership Development Program is one of the most powerful programs for young women today. By participating on university committees, making presentations, lobbying legislators, and networking with mentors, students develop the skills and tools needed by today's successful women leaders.

In the 1970s, Georgian Court University expanded its programs and opened its doors to men. Over the decades, GCU has added buildings and faculty to meet the growing student population, which stands at more than 3,000 today. In addition to the original GCU estate, which has been preserved and is on the National Register of Historic Places, the GCU landscape includes a new wellness center, residence hall, chapel, and science wing that were all added in the last several years.

With 29 undergraduate and eight graduate degree offerings, GCU continues to develop new academic programs. Their new nursing program, established just this year, will help stem nursing shortages in New Jersey. Their accelerated and executive MBA program allows executives to gain the information they need to advance their careers, and as one of only 50 NASA Educational Resource Centers, GCU ensures that teachers have the most up-to-date scientific information for their classrooms.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the service of Georgian Court University's faculty and students. Whether

sending teams of students and staff to install water systems in poverty-stricken areas of Honduras or helping local homeless populations in New Jersey, GCU is committed to making the world a better place.

Mr. President, the students, alumni, and staff of Georgian Court University have much to be proud of as they celebrate 100 years of academia. I applaud GCU for its many years of service, and I wish the university continued success in the years ahead.●

TRIBUTE TO MARY MARK

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, former Oregon Governor Tom McCall once said, "Heroes are not statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say, 'This is my community and it is my responsibility to make it better'."

Today I pay tribute to a remarkable lady who truly earned the title of "hero," because few individuals have done more in the past several decades to make the community of Portland, OR, a better place than Mary Mark. Mary passed away recently, and last week I joined with over 600 other Oregonians in attending a tribute service that honored Mary's life and legacy.

I first met Mary some 13 years ago when I was just beginning my campaign for the Senate. I had heard from many friends of the sterling reputation of Mary and her husband Pete and their status as two of Oregon's most generous philanthropists, but since I was from east of the mountains, I had not had the opportunity to meet them. And, unfortunately, the purpose of our meeting was for me to do something I hate to do, but which is a necessary evil for running for office—and that's to ask people for money.

It didn't take me but a few minutes into the meeting to reach a few conclusions—conclusions that have been reinforced time and time again over the years. First, Mary and Pete were two of the warmest and most gracious people I had ever met. There is a tradition here on the floor of the U.S. Senate where members refer to each other as "gentleman" or "gentlelady." We yield to the "gentleman from Iowa," or we agree with the remarks of the "gentlelady from Maine." There are some who believe the terms are quaint and old-fashioned. I do not. I don't think that manners and kindness and courtesy ever go out of fashion. And I can't think of better words to describe Pete and Mary as a "gentleman" and a "gentlelady."

The second conclusion I reached is that Mary and Pete were two of the keenest observers of the political scene that I had ever met. I always looked forward to our meetings, because I knew that Mary was going to ask me some tough questions, and I knew she would share with me her very perceptive opinions. To be frank, in our business it is easy to find individuals who will tell me what they think I want to hear. Mary Mark always told me what I needed to hear.

It was also easy to see that as much as Mary loved her country and her community, the true great love of her life was her husband, and their wonderful children and grandchildren. Mary understood instinctively that our success as a society depends not on what happens in the conference tables of Washington, DC, but on what happens at kitchen tables in every community in Oregon. And when Sharon and I experienced a tragedy in our family, Mary and Pete reached out to us with kindness and compassion.

Mr. President, the Greek poet Sophocles once wrote, "One must wait until the evening to see how splendid the day has been." For her family, for the community of Portland, and for Mary's countless friends and admirers, the evening of Mary's life came much too soon. It is my hope, however, that we can find solace in the fact that in the evening of her time on earth, Mary Mark could look back at a life filled with family, a life filled with generosity, a life filled with service to others, a life filled with making a positive difference, and say that the day had indeed been splendid.

May God bless Mary Mark, and may we all carry on her legacy by loving our community and by loving our family.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 9:33 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1760. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Healthy Start Initiative.

S. 3241. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1717 Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the "CeeCee Ross Lyles Post Office Building".

H.R. 923. An act to provide for the investigation of certain unsolved civil rights crimes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1199. An act to extend the grant program for drug-endangered children.

H.R. 5834. An act to amend the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004 to promote respect for the fundamental human rights of the people of North Korea, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6984. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

At 12:25 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 2638) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with an

amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

At 2:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Zapata, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2095) to amend title 49, United States Code, to prevent railroad fatalities, injuries and hazardous materials releases, to authorize the Federal Railroad Safety Administration, and for other purposes, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

At 3:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Zapata, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2583. An act to amend title VII of the Public Health Service Act to establish a loan program for eligible hospitals to establish residency in training programs.

H.R. 3511. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2150 East Hardtner Drive in Urania, Louisiana, as the "Murphy A. Tannehill Post Office Building."

H.R. 5265. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research with respect to various forms of muscular dystrophy, including Becker, congenital, distal, Duchenne, Emery-Dreifuss facioscapulohumeral, limb-girdle, myotonic, and oculopharyngeal, muscular dystrophies.

H.R. 6198. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1700 Cleveland Avenue in Kansas City, Missouri, as the "Reverend Earl Abel Post Office Building."

H.R. 6353. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to address online pharmacies.

H.R. 6406. An act to elevate the Inspector General of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to an Inspector General appointed pursuant to section 3 of the Inspector General Act of 1978.

H.R. 6849. An act to amend the commodity provisions of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to permit producers to aggregate base acres and reconstitute farms to avoid the prohibition on receiving direct payments, counter-cyclical payments, or average crop revenue election payments when the sum of the base acres of a farm is 10 acres or less, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6874. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 156 Taunton Avenue in Seekonk Massachusetts, as the "Lance Corporal Eric Paul Valdepenas Post Office Building."

H.R. 6908. An act to require that limitations and restrictions on coverage under group health plans be timely disclosed to group health plan sponsors and timely communicated to participants and beneficiaries under such plans in a form that is easily understandable.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 223. Concurrent resolution honoring professional surveyors and recognizing their contributions to society.

H. Con. Res. 351. Concurrent resolution honoring the 225th anniversary of the Continental Congress meeting in Nassau Hall, Princeton, New Jersey, in 1783.

H. Con. Res. 386. Concurrent resolution recognizing and celebrating the 232d anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 2606. An act to reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 3009. An act to designate the Federal Bureau of Investigation building under construction in Omaha, Nebraska, as the "J. James Exon Federal Bureau of Investigation Building."

At 6:50 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 160. An act to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program for the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and for other purposes.

H.R. 758. An act to require that health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies, lumpectomies, and lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer and coverage for secondary consultations.

H.R. 1532. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to making progress toward the goal of eliminating tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2933. An act to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2994. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to pain care.

H.R. 4544. An act to require the issuance of medals to recognize the dedication and valor of Native American code talkers.

H.R. 4828. An act to amend the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site Act of 1991 to expand the boundaries of the historic site, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6323. An act to establish a research, development, demonstration, and commercial application program to promote research of appropriate technologies for heavy duty plug-in hybrid vehicles and for other purposes.

H.R. 6980. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the amount of the Medal of Honor special pension provided under that title by up to \$1,000.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 2162. An act to improve the treatment and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and substance use disorders, and for other purposes.

S. 3023. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and enhance compensation and pension, housing, labor and education, and insurance benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 6980. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of

Veterans Affairs to increase the amount of the Medal of Honor special pension provided under that title by up to \$1,000; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, September 25, 2008, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills and joint resolutions:

S. 171. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 Commerce Street in Commerce, Oklahoma, as the "Mickey Mantle Post Office Building".

S. 2135. An act to prohibit the recruitment or use of child soldiers, to designate persons who recruit or use child soldiers as inadmissible aliens, to allow the deportation of persons who recruit or use child soldiers, and for other purposes.

S.J. Res. 35. Joint resolution to amend Public Law 108-331 to provide for the construction and related activities in support of the Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System (VERITAS) project in Arizona.

S.J. Res. 45. Joint resolution expressing the consent and approval of Congress to an interstate compact regarding water resources in the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-7881. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Atka Mackerel Lottery in Areas 542 and 543" ((RIN0648-XJ73)(Docket No. 071106673-8011-02)) received on September 8, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7882. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; Quota Transfer" ((RIN0648-XJ49)(Docket No. 061109296-7009-02)) received on September 8, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7883. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Greenland Turbot in the Aleutian Islands Subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" ((RIN0648-XJ81)(Docket No. 071106673-8011-02)) received on September 8, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7884. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Atka Mackerel in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area; Correction" ((RIN0648-XJ59)(Docket No. 071106673-8011-02)) received on September 8, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.